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Weizman vetoes Sinai settlement?

TEL AVIV, March 1 (R). — Israel's state television reported tonight that Defence Minister Ezer Weizman had vetoed the establishment of a new government approved Jewish settlement in the Sinai desert. No official comment was immediately available on the report, which said Mr. Weizman had ordered the military governor of northern Sinai to stop settlers from entering the planned site, Kadesh Barnea. The new outpost had been approved by Israel's former Labour government and the decision to go ahead with it was taken four months ago by a ministerial committee headed by Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon, according to the television report.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Tel Aviv blast kills two

TEL AVIV, March 1 (Agencies). — A massive explosion of a house here today killing a middle aged man and injuring three other Israelis, police said. A communiqué said it was an accident caused by a faulty gas main, but sabotage was not ruled out. The communiqué said no traces of explosives were found after the latest blast. But Palestinian commander in Beirut said they were responsible for the blast. A Palestinian spokesman said a detailed report would be issued later.

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Indira Gandhi: There is only one Congress Party

DELHI, March 1 (Agencies). — Former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi today vowed for reunification of the Congress Party, saying she thought it was the government of the western state of Gujarat.

Handas K. Gandhi and the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira's father. The Janata sweep was mainly in northern India, where emergency rule was harsher. The Congress remained dominant in several southern states including the two where Mrs. Gandhi's New Congress Party won state assembly elections last weekend, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

Reiterating that she has no present plans to seek office again, Mrs. Gandhi served notice that she will wage her political activity at meetings and rallies outside of parliament.



Mrs. Indira Gandhi

the country... my only immediate plans are for meeting the people."

Mrs. Gandhi dismissed the Jan. 2 split of the Congress Party as a "family quarrel which can be sorted out." But she implied this would have to be on her terms, declaring, "There is only one Congress... at the moment I am president of the party and until they throw me out, I am the president."

The weekend victory by Mrs. Gandhi's Congress Party plunged the rival "official" Congress into disarray and prompted resignation of its president, K.B. Reddi.

Swaran Singh, a former foreign minister of Mrs. Gandhi, was named tonight to succeed Mr. Reddi as provisional president.

The former prime minister raised the issue of government practising undeciphered censorship, saying that in contrast, when "I imposed censorship, I said I imposed censorship."

"Who doubts that there is press censorship today?" she asked. "The press is extremely biased... there are many news not published or published in an incorrect manner... I have information that people high up are censoring things... I am not saying that everything is blacked out, but things are blacked out."

Wattered U.S. dollar sinks below marks in its worst day of trading

MARCH 1 (R). — The day had its worst day in its history, dropping to new lows and reaching a low of 1.76 Swiss francs against the dollar. The Swiss franc again partially stemmed the fall of the dollar.

It is profitable for people to sell dollars they will go on doing so until the central banks really do something about it.

The basic economic cause for the dollar's fall is the American economy which has a huge trade deficit.

This has led to a general lack of confidence and many officials have said the dollar's fall is greater than is justified by purely economic factors.

ign exchange markets.

Today, however, Switzerland strengthened its measures and the dollar came back up to 1.8350 Swiss francs and 2.0140 marks in London this afternoon.

Swiss National Bank President Fritz Luthi told Reuters today that the bank was proposing a new rule which appears to be aimed at stopping foreigners from using Swiss francs as a reserve currency in which to do dealings.

He said foreign central banks holding balances of Swiss francs in Switzerland would have to pay interest instead of receiving interest — "negative" interest.

World News Roundup...

South Africa promises autonomy for Soweto

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, March 1 (AP). — The South African government has pledged to give full local autonomy to its largest urban community and home of 1.5 million blacks. It undertakes that within a stipulated period of coming into the Community Council of Soweto, it shall be accorded autonomy in local affairs. Congia Mulder, the minister in charge of black affairs, said in a statement after Tuesday's parliament session in Cape Town. He did not specify what the stipulated period would be. The nine million urban blacks living in areas as white as a major stumbling block in the government's plan to make the country's 19 million blacks citizens of a unitary state. Soweto has been a hotbed of militant opposition to the plan and its leaders have demanded local autonomy.

Butros talks with Assad

BEIRUT, March 1 (R). — Lebanese Foreign Minister Fawzi Saeid was received by President Hafez Assad here last night for talks on bilateral relations and Middle East development. The Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam and Deputy Defence Minister Gen. Najib Jamil. Officially said the Lebanese foreign minister's talks here would focus on the renewal of the mandate for the Syrian peace force in Lebanon. The mandate of the 30,000-man Arab peace force expires April 28.

Israeli advance in south Lebanon halted

TEL AVIV, March 1 (R). — The Palestine News Service reported that Palestinian and Lebanese militant forces had halted an Israeli advance in south Lebanon.

advance by Israeli backed rightists in South Lebanon. The agency said fighting broke out when a force comprising two armoured personnel carriers and five other vehicles tried to advance towards the village of Abiroun near the Israeli border last night. It said Palestinian militant units forced their enemies to retreat, despite a heavy bombardment from the Israeli side. The agency added that three of the vehicles used by the rightists had been stolen earlier from United Nations truce observers in the area.

Greek Cypriot ministers offer their resignations

NICOSIA, March 1 (R). — Greek Cypriot cabinet ministers today offered their resignations to Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou to allow him to reshuffle the government. Mr. Kyprianou, who began a new term of office yesterday, asked them to stay in office until the announcement of a reshuffled cabinet. Reliable sources said they did not expect the reshuffle to be completed before the end of this month.

M. Simonet plans Middle East tour

BRUSSELS, March 1 (R). — Belgian Foreign Minister Henri Simonet begins a series of trips to the Middle East on March 12 with a three-day official visit to Cairo, a foreign ministry spokesman said today. During the visit, he will meet President Anwar Sadat, and reaffirm Belgium's support for his peace initiative. M. Simonet will then go on to Algeria for a two-day visit on March 15 and 16, during which he will meet President Houari Boumedienne. Later in the month he resumes his Middle East tour with a two-day official visit to Israel on March 22. M. Simonet will go to Ankara on March 27 for two days of talks with Bulent Ecevit who recently returned to power as prime minister.

Cairo knew in advance of Israel's inflexibility on Sinai issue, Haaretz says

BEIRUT'S newspaper Al Safir Wednesday frontpaged this photograph of a blindfolded "Palestinian renegade" identified as Salim Hussein Abu Suboh, who, according to the Palestinian News Agency WAFAP, was executed Tuesday by a guerrilla firing squad for "complicity with Israeli agents" in the murder of Palestinian official Mahmoud Al Hamshari in Paris five years ago. (AP wirephoto)

TEL AVIV, March 1 (R). — The influential Haaretz newspaper today alleged that Israel had made clear to Egypt prior to President Sadat's historic visit to Jerusalem in November that it would never give up Jewish settlements in Sinai.

The unsourced report claimed that Defence Minister Moshe Dayan made Israel's stand clear during two secret meetings in Morocco with Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Hassan Al Tuhami and other top Egyptian officials.

Foreign Ministry officials declined to comment on the report, but one state-owned radio correspondent said: "It is clearly true."

Mr. Dayan mysteriously disappeared during two foreign trips last autumn and reports at the time said he paid secret visits to Morocco.

The Haaretz report said that in his Morocco meetings Mr. Dayan made clear to the Egyptians Israel's position on Sinai in any future peace talks. It reportedly consisted of dividing Sinai into three zones — unlimited Egyptian forces zone, a demilitarised and a U.N. zone. The third would constitute

a security belt for Israel and would include the Jewish settlements there "with self defence capability."

Haaretz said the Egyptians had not indicated a willingness to accept the proposals but said they could be a basis for negotiations.

The report said that following President Sadat's visit to Jerusalem on Nov. 19, Mr. Dayan held a meeting with Mr. Tuhami where he provided the Egyptian official with an Israeli plan which again included the settlements.

Haaretz concluded that President Sadat therefore knew about Israel's insistence on maintaining the settlements in Sinai before their inclusion in Israel's formal peace plan presented to him by Prime Minister Menachem Begin in Ismailia on Christmas day.

President Sadat has rejected the plan saying he could not agree to the continued existence of the 13 settlements. The Carter administration has also criticised them as an obstacle to peace.

Syrian envoy in Kuwait

KUWAIT, March 1 (Agencies). — Syria's special envoy Adib Daoudi arrived in Kuwait from Saudi Arabia today and delivered a letter from President Hafez Assad to the Emir Sheikh Jaber Al Sabah.

Government sources here said the letter dealt with "the latest developments in the Middle East." It is believed to outline Syria's continued opposition to President Anwar Sadat's peace initiative.

The sources said Dr. Daoudi also briefed the Kuwaiti ruler on President Assad's recent visit to the Soviet Union where he had talks with Kremlin leaders.

Dr. Daoudi described his meeting with Sheikh Jaber as cordial and constructive. Syria's position on Palestinian rights was firm, he said. "It recognises the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole legitimate representative of that people," Dr. Daoudi added.

U.S. envoy due in Amman Friday

Atherton: Egypt still dedicated to peace

ISMAILIA, Egypt, March 1 (R). — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Atherton said today he had found President Anwar Sadat was still dedicated to his peace initiative with Israel and he believed Israel also wanted it to continue.

Mr. Atherton, who has been shuttling between the two countries in an effort to restart peace talks, was speaking to reporters after an 80-minute meeting with the Egyptian leader in this Suez Canal town where Mr. Sadat is resting.

He said: "I find President Sadat as dedicated as ever on continuing the peace process and as I said before I believe the Israeli government is also (dedicated) to continuing the peace process."

Egyptian Foreign Minister Mohammad Ibrahim Kamel said the resumption of bilateral talks would be decided after Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin's visit to Washington, which begins on March 13.

Mr. Kamel, who attended today's talks, was commenting on a call in Jerusalem today by Mr. Begin for President Sadat to reconvene the bilateral military and political committees whose discussions have been stalled since January.

Addressing a meeting of the World Zionist Congress, Mr. Begin however reiterated Israel would reject any call either for its withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands or the creation of a Palestinian state.

Mr. Atherton said he reported to President Sadat on his talks in Jerusalem and on his discussions with Mr. Kamel.

Mr. Atherton returned to Jerusalem today. Asked before his departure when he would come back to Egypt, Mr. Atherton said: "I am not quite sure. It will be next week something... probably early next week."

Asked if he could say what he had achieved, he replied: "I don't want to go into details. We are having really quite intensive talks, quite detailed talks. It is not possible to try to measure each step each day."

"The fact is (the mission) is continuing, the fact that I am here and that I am coming back is evidence the process is going on and it is not in any sense stalled."

Mr. Atherton will meet Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan tomorrow and travel on to Amman Friday, a U.S. spokesman said in Tel Aviv.

On his return to Israel, Mr. Atherton was met at the airport by U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis. Mr. Atherton made no statement to reporters.

But his spokesman said the U.S. envoy had brought no new Egyptian proposals on the disputed declaration of principles, but was carrying Egypt's initial reaction to Israel's latest suggestions.

Sadat warns "dwarfs" Egypt's military arm will reach out anywhere

CAIRO, March 1 (AP). — President Anwar Sadat pledged again today that Egypt's military "arm will reach out anywhere in the world" in defence of any Egyptian.

"Our commanders gave the dwarfs a lesson that they should remember: if any Egyptian is attacked, our arm will reach out anywhere in the world in his defence," Mr. Sadat told local political leaders in a speech at the Suez Canal city of Port Said.

The Egyptian leader made similar remarks last week in addressing commanders who staged an ill-fated raid on a terrorist-controlled airport at Larnaca in Cyprus. Fifteen Egyptian soldiers were killed and 100 wounded in the Feb. 19 airport shootout.

In a 40-minute speech devoted mostly to home front issues, Mr. Sadat accused the Cypriot government of "treason and treachery" for allowing the guardsmen to shoot the commanders in the back as they tried to capture the killers of prominent Egyptian journalist Youssef Sibai.

Egypt broke relations with Cyprus three days after the airport shootout and President Sadat denounced Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou as a "dwarf." Egyptian officials have suggested collusion between the Cypriots and the terrorists.

Turning to the home front, Mr. Sadat said one of the main problems Egyptians will have to face in the coming two years is agricultural self-sufficiency.

He said his government has plans "to invade the desert and turn it green" because the country's arable land — six million acres — has not increased for 50 years.

The Egyptian government is forced to import 75 per cent of its flour, grain, sugar and protein foods because of salting and inadequate drainage system, have damaged 10 to 20 per cent of the land.

The country is also losing thousands of acres annually to urban expansion.

The dream for an international high school in Amman now only needs two students to make it come true

By Ian Kellas
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, March 1 — If just two more pupils enroll Amman will have an international high school in operation by September this year. This is what emerged from a meeting last night convened by Mr. Paul Smith, Chairman of the Southern Baptist Mission in Jordan and the moving spirit behind the scheme.

"With 20 students it (the school) is a possibility. If we have less than 20 it is finished as from tonight," Mr. Smith warned the 30 or so parents who came along to the meeting. At the end of the session however it was agreed that a final decision would be put off until Friday.

Mr. Smith's list was still not full, but it seemed likely that more applications would be forthcoming. Some of the school's potential pupils were perhaps less keen on the idea than their parents because a number of the slips had apparently gone astray at their end.

Plans for the school, which will be independent of any mission — commercial, diplomatic or religious — have already reached quite an advanced stage. The Baptist mission has nominated three well-qualified teachers, who would be sent out here. Another two teachers would be recruited locally.

A suitable building has been hunted down. It has eight spacious rooms and is conveniently sited next to Al Hussein Youth City, whose facilities the school hopes to be allowed to use.

Following the American system, the school will cater for the 10th, 11th and 12th grades. It will adopt the curriculum of the State of Nebraska and provide tuition in algebra, geometry, biology, chemistry, physics, history, geography, physical education, French, German, Spanish and perhaps Arabic.

If there are twenty students, the fees for the school will be \$2,500 a year; if there are 30 then that figure could come down to \$1,800. In any case the costs of the school will have to be met from the fees.

Questions were asked at the meeting about the accreditation of the school. It appeared that there was no possibility of gaining this until after the school is actually in operation but that this would not be a serious handicap for a student applying to a college in the United States.

There can be little doubt that there is a substantial demand for an international high school in Amman. The problem is getting it off the ground. "I can't tell you someone's coming," said one parent, who heads an expatriate company in Jordan "until you tell me that you are going to have a school and you can't tell me that you are going to have a school until I tell you..."

Mr. Smith makes no attempt to hide his interest in the scheme. Two of his daughters are at school in Athens and he has another in the ninth grade at the American Community School (ACS) here, which is as far as ACS goes. The Baptist mission is clearly not the only institution with an interest in having an international high school here. Education is a factor which is of considerable importance for foreign companies when placing their personnel abroad.

The demand has become more acute since the troubles in Beirut. "Would you send your child there these days?" one mother asked me. The alternatives which most parents seem to have adopted were to send their children to Athens, or to Rome if not the States. About ten children are at present doing a correspondence course which follows the same curriculum as will be adopted by the high school.

If Amman is to become a growing regional centre, a high school here will clearly not be short of pupils in the future.

So if you have two children of eligible age. Mr. Smith would like to hear from you as soon as possible. Tel: 42934.

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The water's fine; the senator is not

Well, we knew it wouldn't take long for the Wildmen of Zion in the American Congress to crank up their machinery against the Carter administration's proposed sale of fighter planes to Saudi Arabia and Egypt, but we had hoped, at least, that the performance would have some substance to it, and some reason as well. Seeing from the show put on this week in the Senate by Florida's Democratic Senator Richard Stone -- one of the stars of the Wildmen of Zion in the Congress -- it seems we will be deprived of any rational edge to the arguments against the plane sales.

Now Senator Stone is in a different position, and we have to be fair to him. His constituency is made up largely of old Jewish people who have left the cold winters of New York and Chicago and New Jersey to spend their golden years in the warm sunshine of Florida, where, it seems, Democratic Senators have license to speak without having to answer to the dictates of rationality. Mr. Stone is angry this week because he says the Saudis are stationing Hawk anti-aircraft missiles around the northwestern Saudi Arabian air force base at Tabuk. Presumably, his Florida constituents wake up every morning and the first thing they check is the temperature of the water on the Florida beaches and the state of affairs in northwestern Saudi Arabian skies.

It is hard to think of an argument against the United States selling Hawk defensive missile systems to Saudi Arabia, given the strategic importance of the Saudi Arabians to the United States; and so it is equally strange to see an American senator from the great state of Florida speaking out against the Carter administration's decision to sell missiles and planes to the Saudis. But then, this must be the way a democratic country works, in which case, we suggest, the American people should ask themselves if their system is based on the interests of the entire United States of America, or rather on the fears of old people in Florida? The dividing line between democratic principles and the tyranny of the minority is very fine indeed, as we see this week along the sunny beaches of Miami and in the sunny skies of northwestern Saudi Arabia.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I Wednesday said it is still early to consider Mr. Alfred Atherton's mission a failure, although all indications point out to this effect, particularly the tacit admission by Mr. Atherton of the inability to reach a rapprochement between Egypt and Israel on a formula for a declaration of principles. The fact is that more than one party are surprisingly insisting to rotate inside a vicious circle even if this would not lead to the required peace.

Israel, Al Ra'i continues, has followed its own fancy. It is ready to offer any concession only in return for an enormous price paid by the Arab side. But, up till now, Egypt doesn't appear to be prepared to pay such a price, because this goes beyond its ability, except, perhaps, with regard to its own regional territory.

At the same time, the newspaper says, Egypt finds itself pained at retracting from President Anwar Sadat's "adventure" which yielded no positive result on the road to peace.

AL DUSTOUR, said that when the Egyptian authorities "declared war on the Palestinians living in their midst," and when they at the same time continued to seek reconciliation with Israel, they must not expect the Arab peoples, particularly the Jordanians, to bless such steps or keep silent.

The newspaper maintains that the Arabs have the right to bring Egypt to account. It adds: "We have never thought for a moment that Egypt would take such a drastic and erroneous step against the Palestinians; and, how is President Sadat going to accept that the people of Palestine should pay for an individual crime committed by two who alleged they were related to the people of Palestine?"

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Educating, demonstrating, persuading farmers is how Minister sees state role

By Lee S. Tesdell
Special to the Jordan Times

In a recent interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Salah Jum'a, stressed the point that his Ministry of Agriculture does not perceive its role in the agriculture of Jordan as one of production, but rather as demonstration and training.

"We are not so fond of running projects for production purposes", he said, but rather try to encourage the "private sector" to "pursue these projects."

An example of successful training and demonstration concerns egg and poultry production in Jordan. Mr. Jum'a told the Jordan Times that he could remember when the chicken demonstration project was begun, near what is now the University of Jordan, in Jericho. At that time, he said, in the early 1950's, it was used both for demonstration and student training. Today Jordan is nearly self-sufficient in poultry production and hopes to be self-sufficient in egg production in two years, partially as a result of that project.

With the limited nature of Jordan's agricultural resources, selection of certain target areas is of course important. Mr. Jum'a told the Jordan Times that one such emphasis is to persuade farmers to plant fruit trees instead of wheat or barley. This is being done through a subsidy of half the cost.

"We are receiving lots of help" in this area he said, through F.A.O. (Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations) the W.F.P. (World Food Programme) and recently through an agreement with the United States which will provide about \$12 million worth of foodstuffs to be distributed to cooperating farmers.

Dairy farm runs smoothly

The area in which this plan is being encouraged receives between more than 300 mm. and 500 mm. of rain per year. Mr. Jum'a explained that in areas receiving less than 300 mm. per year, few farmers, "are willing to plant trees."

When asked about ancient water use systems of the Nabateans and Romans in southern Jordan and the area east of Mafrqa, Mr. Jum'a said that the "weather and climate change since ancient times" has probably been quite substantial, so that may no longer be possible.

One of the Ministry's largest projects is the irrigation of about 200,000 more dunums of land in the Jordan Valley. A total of 350,000 dunums should be irrigated by the time the King Talal Dam and Maqarun Dam are completed.

The King Talal Dam on the Zarqa River is nearly completed, but the Maqarun Dam on the Yarmouk River should be finished in 1982. The total effect in the Jordan Valley of the additional water should be

to double the irrigated land area.

Mr. Jum'a explained that one of the benefits of the expanded crop area in the valley will be to make the growing of fodder crops possible for dairy projects. The one dairy farm which Jordan has established, with the help of Denmark, in Wadi Dheil "has been run smoothly", said Mr. Jum'a, and added, "we don't make much profit or much loss."

The registered Friesian cows were flown from Denmark for the project and have now adapted themselves to the Jordanian climate. It is hoped also by the Ministry that trained personnel for the dairy industry will be a spin-off of the project.



Mr. Salah Jum'a

Originally it was hoped, said Mr. Jum'a, that the project would be a joint effort involving both the private sector and the Ministry, but no one in the private sector was interested, he told us, and so the Ministry has continued to run it on a non-commercial basis. A basic concern of the consumers in Jordan, said Mr. Jum'a, is a source of cheap protein. Because of the high cost of red meat (mutton and beef) there is a necessary shift to white meat. The poultry production, now nearly self-sufficient has been an important aspect of this. When there is a shortage of white meat in Jordan however, Mr. Jum'a said that Jordan must then grant import licences for the importation of red meat, because there is not enough produced inside the country.

Another possible source of cheap protein is fish. Mr. Jum'a talked to us about the

future of fishing industry in Jordan. Firstly, he said that Aqaba is of very little use as a fishing port. A project there sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme was not successful. Most of the fish for sale in Jordan now comes from the Gulf and from Europe, he said. Oman may become another source soon because of suitable prices there, he said.

Another angle on the same problem is the raising of fish at Azraq, where there is sufficient water. There is now a project with British aid, which may provide experts, technical help and scholarships for a "production, demonstration and maybe even recreation" project at Azraq.

One potential problem with the use of fish as cheap protein in Jordan is that outside the cities few consumers are acquainted with the value of fish, said the minister.

Although Jordan is not now, and never will be, self-sufficient in some important agricultural products (such as wheat) storage facilities are being built to store supplies of wheat for Jordan's needs and for red meat also.

100,000 metric tonnes of wheat will be stored in Jordan when the project is complete, half in Amman and half in Aqaba. Jordan's annual wheat needs run to about 350,000 metric tonnes and in the "best year we produce not more than 180,000 metric tonnes", said Mr. Jum'a. He also said that the production cost of Jordanian wheat is higher than that of wheat on the international market, so that it doesn't make sense for Jordan to try to become self-sufficient.

Mr. Jum'a summed up this philosophy of producing only what is appropriate saying "produce what you can market, not market what you can produce."

He mentioned that although olive and olive oil production now brings a good price on the market, that may change, and Jordan's agricultural production must also be willing to change to meet the change in demand.

Almonds or grapes, for instance, he said, might become more profitable than olives. "We can't predict in the long run" what the "international scene will be, Mr. Jum'a said.

Reversing the work of 100 years

Finally, Mr. Jum'a talked with the Jordan Times about one of the most visible undertakings of his Ministry, afforestation of Jordan's uplands. There is a total of 1 1/2 million dunums of land under the jurisdiction of the Forest Department, but for reasons of rainfall, soil quality, etc., the greater part of it can not be planted with trees.

Asked what the cause of the denuding of Jordan's forests was, the Minister explained that in the south many of the trees were cut during World War I to cut fuel trains, and that humans and animals did the rest of the damage.

Now the goal is to plant 20,000 to 30,000 dunums of forest per year, but this year it was not possible because "we lack a labour force", said the Minister.

At present central and north Jordan are centres of activity for afforestation, which has a multi-purpose aim, including recreation, control of soil erosion, and enhancement of tourism.

Although the penalties for disturbing forests are now severe in Jordan, there is still some problem with livestock, said Mr. Jum'a.

The process of afforesting Jordan's hills is a "very costly process" warned the minister. Often trees must be watered three times a year for three years in order to survive. The labour involved, he continued, is then quite a large expense. If the afforestation of the Jordanian uplands is accomplished, it will mean the reversal of a trend which has been progressing for at least one century.

St. David's Day celebrated by Amman's Welsh ladies

By a Jordan Times staff reporter

AMMAN, March 1 -- The Annual General Meeting of the British Ladies of Amman, held at the British Embassy Club near fourth circle today, was definitely an AGM with a difference.

The meeting happened to fall on the Welsh National Day, March 1st, more commonly known as St. David's day (St. David being the patron saint of Wales).

Realising this, Mrs. Selly Funderburk, a lively Welshwoman, decided to take over the cultural programme of the meeting by celebrating the day in a particularly Welsh way.

She gathered together all the ladies of Welsh origin who include Mrs. Avis Lewis, Mrs. Gloria Mango, Mrs. Naomi Sukkar, Mrs. Gwen Symonds, Mrs. Barbara Wear and Mrs. Mary Zu'bi and together they planned a programme which included entertaining the non-Welsh members and guests at the meeting with delightful Welsh songs.

One of the highlights of the show was "Calon Lân" a particularly soothing solo sung by Mrs. Funderburk which reinforced that good old reputation Wales has for producing fine singers.

And finally, a rousing version of the Welsh national anthem, "Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau" (Land of my fathers), sung in Welsh by the ladies and including a chorus in English so the whole gathering could join in, rounded the entertainment off perfectly before the ladies hurried off to serve the tea and Welsh goodies they had all

Business too

The more serious business of the meeting came first and included the handing over of the chairmanship of the association by Mrs. Winifred Howarth, who was highly praised for her work during her term of office, to Mrs. Pat Dajani, who is bursting with ideas for the coming year's activities.

The Treasurer's report included an interesting item that the sum raised by the British Ladies at a garden fete last year to celebrate the joint silver jubilees of His Majesty King Hussein and Queen Elizabeth, amounted to a grand total of JD 3,616.100 which has been equally divided between charity groups in the two countries.

Jordan's half went to the Al Hussein Society and Britain's to the Prince Charles Appeal.

Business over, the Welsh section, dressed in their national costumes of green skirts, black shawls, white blouses and neat little red aprons and each wearing a daffodil, took the spotlight by delivering a lively and surprisingly professional selection of some of the more popular Welsh songs accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Pauline Gimson, a non-Welsh lady who was willingly co-opted for this particular occasion.

The programme began with a pleasing melodious version of



With the red dragon and a map of Wales behind them and daffodils and pictures decorating the piano, the Welsh section of the British Ladies of Amman give a hearty rendering of "We'll keep a welcome".

"All through the night" and went on to include such old favourites as "We'll keep a welcome".

One of the more lively numbers, "Sopsan Fach," a football song, was delivered with a vigour any Welshman would have been proud to witness.

One of the highlights of the show was "Calon Lân" a particularly soothing solo sung by Mrs. Funderburk which reinforced that good old reputation Wales has for producing fine singers.

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worked hard to prepare. Recipe sheets, headed with the red dragon, and including such typically Welsh specialties as Bara Brith, a sweet bread, Caws Wedi Pobol, or, in English, Welsh Rarebit, and Telen Sir Fon (Anglesey cake) were also available and judging by the amount sold it wouldn't be surprising if a lot of husbands in Amman will be sampling the delights of the Welsh kitchen in the coming week or so.

Do the British Ladies have any plans for St. George's day, St. Andrew's day or St. Patrick's day?

"I'm not sure yet," Mrs. Dajani, the new chairman told the Jordan Times. "This is the first time anything like this has been done and I hope it sets a precedent... we'll have to wait and see what comes out of our next committee meeting!"



Mrs. Selly Funderburk dressed in the national costume of Wales serves tea and Welsh cakes to an American visitor at the British Ladies of Amman meeting Wednesday.

We are looking for unfurnished and individually heated three to four bedroom flat with telephone in Jabal Amman.

Contact 42368, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

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The Jordan Times can accept classified advertisements that are sent in by mail and accompanied by full payment in cash. Readers and advertisers who cannot conveniently bring their advertisements to the Jordan Times office or to an advertising agency office in Amman may send in their ads by mail on the following conditions:

1. Full payment in cash accompanies the advertisement.
2. The minimum charge for a single advertisement is JD 3.
3. Advertisements sent by mail cannot contain any artwork such as company emblems, photos or drawings, but must consist only of a headline and copy that will be typeset by the Jordan Times.
4. Advertisements are not accepted over the telephone or telex, and guaranteed insertions on specific dates can only be assured by sending in the advertisements so they reach the Jordan Times office at least two days before the required day of publication.
5. For the minimum price of JD 3, the advertiser will have published an advertisement of three centimetres on two columns, which will have a maximum of 30 words, including the headline and telephone numbers to be called. The JD 3 charge is for one insertion; two insertions cost JD 6, three insertions cost JD 9, etc.
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(write one word only per box -- please print)

Please publish the above advertisement in the Jordan Times on _____ day (s). Enclosed is payment of _____.

Name:
Address:
Signature:

National News Roundup

Trade agreement signed with Egypt

AMMAN, March 1 (JNA). — A trade protocol between Jordan and Egypt was signed here today. Under the pact, a trade exchange between the two countries will be \$25 million. The protocol was signed for by Under-Secretary of the Industry and Commerce, Dr. Hashem Dabbas and his Egyptian counterpart, Youssef Salaheddine Abbadi.

Exports to Egypt up 200 per cent

AMMAN, March 1 (JNA). — Jordan's exports to Egypt last October rose by 203 per cent compared with the same month in 1976, while imports from Egypt went up 12 per cent in the same comparable period. Figures by the Department of Statistics today indicated a value of Jordan's exports to Egypt last October of JD 115,000 against JD 38,000 in the same month of 1976. Imports during the same period amounted to JD 856,000. Main exports to Egypt were paint, cloth, plastic granules, tissue paper and clothing. Imports were cotton fabric, cement and potatoes.

Water project inspected

AMMAN, March 1 (JNA). — Minister of Agriculture Samir Attallah yesterday inspected the progress of work in a project which aims to provide water for irrigation of the Karak governorate. Meanwhile Governor of Aqaba District Khaled Al Zu'bi today made inspection to the Rahmeh and Gharandel villages in the Wadi Araba sub-district, and looked at the artesian wells being used for drinking and irrigation purposes by the tribes there.

ges in the Wadi Araba sub-district, and looked at the artesian wells being used for drinking and irrigation purposes by the tribes there.

New forest to be inaugurated Friday

AMMAN, March 1 (JNA). — The inauguration of a new forest on the outskirts of Amman will take place Friday, March 3rd, under the patronage of His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Viceroy, and Princess Sarvath. The project, which is to be called the Yajouz Forest For Children, is close to the Al Hussein Youth City and is jointly sponsored by the Friends of Children Club and the Ministry of Agriculture. The tree planting was to have taken place last Friday but was postponed due to bad weather conditions.

CID officers graduate

AMMAN, March 1 (JNA). — A ceremony for the graduation of the 11th batch of police officers for criminal investigation was held today at the Royal Police Academy. Director of Public Security Lt. Gen. Ghazi Arabiyat sponsored the graduation ceremony and made a speech to the graduates who had completed an eight-week course, underlining the importance of their work and outlining the different stages and study programmes the officers had to follow enabling them to carry out their duties. The ceremony was attended by the director of planning and training and the director of the Royal Police Academy.

Amman Stock Exchange Report

Symbol	Volume	Opening	Highest	Lowest	Closing	Last	Last
		price	selling	selling	price	buying	selling
10000	557	11.100	11.150	11.150	11.150	—	11.150
1000	530	1.100	1.100	1.100	1.100	—	—
1000	500	0.950	1.000	1.000	1.000	—	1.000
1000	2,570	2.200	2.250	2.200	2.200	—	—
1000	1,615	1.350	1.350	1.350	1.350	—	—
10000	1,785	15.050	15.850	15.750	15.750	—	15.800
1000	40	0.900	0.900	0.900	0.900	—	—
1000	225	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.050
1000	210	1.000	1.050	1.050	1.050	—	—
1000	2,775	6.850	6.850	6.850	6.850	—	6.900
1000	2,315	2.100	2.100	2.100	2.100	—	—

Stop the move to cities, Prince Hassan urges

AMMAN, March 1 (JNA). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Viceroy, Wednesday morning visited the governorates of Karak and Tafleh. In a speech he gave there, the Prince said that the process of development demands collective effort and that it is important that the citizens' awareness should be parallel with that process.

They should stick together, settle down and stop migrating from the country to the city — a phenomenon which endangers the growth and development of the society.

His Highness pointed out that there are serious efforts underway to decentralise public service facilities in the major towns to provide all services of government departments to citizens at local and regional levels saving effort, time and expense.

The Viceroy was accompanied by Minister of Labour Issam Ajlouni, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs Ibrahim Ayoub and a number of government officials.

Tourism minister discusses Irbid map

AMMAN, March 1 (JNA). — Tourism Minister Ghaleb Barakat met here today with a Japanese team currently preparing a comprehensive map for the Irbid region and explained to its members projects undertaken by his Ministry in the Irbid area in particular and the country's aspiration for a better developed tourism industry in general. The team is conducting the work in cooperation with the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the National Planning Council.

Business Grapevine

By John Bonar

No limit?

If the old adages that money makes money and success breeds success are true, there seems no limit to the potential of the Arab Bank, headquartered here in Amman and now the 23rd bank in the world according to the latest listings. Over the years the Arab Bank has kept on growing despite nationalisations in a number of Arab countries from Iraq to Libya and now after a year of economic slowdown it has just announced a 27 per cent increase in assets over the year.

The bank has just increased its equity by 33 per cent through a share split and a 22 per cent dividend on share value. In 1977 the bank made a total of JD 12,200,000 net profit after all expenses including interest paid, depreciations, provisions, taxes and salaries and fringe benefits for employees.

With the recent increase the bank's equity now stands at JD 40 million against JD 30 million in 1976. Total assets stand at JD 903,616,081 at Dec. 31, 1977 and the balance sheet total was JD 1,521,946,870.

During 1977 the bank opened new branches in Cairo (Egypt), Salalah (Oman), Umm Al Qaywayn and Fujairah (UAE) and Tripoli-Mina (Lebanon), bringing the total number of operating branches to 49.

Seventy other branches in the West Bank and Gaza are temporarily closed. A branch at Marka in Amman will be opened shortly.

BBME goes Saudi

Down in Saudi Arabia, the British Bank of the Middle East will soon be no more as the signs above its branches in Jeddah, Dammam, and Al Khobar change to the Saudi British Bank. Negotiations, first reported in this column last year, between BBME and Saudi interests and conducted under the auspices of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency have, in the words of the bank, "resulted in complete agreement" to establish the new bank as a joint stock company. A

Royal Decree authorising its incorporation was passed on Jan. 21.

The capital of the new bank has been set at Saudi Riyals 100 million divided into one million registered shares. BBME will hold 40 per cent of the equity and have an eight-year management contract which is renewable.

Prominent Saudi businessmen headed by Sheikh Suleiman Saleh Al Olayan, chairman of the new bank's board of directors, have invested S.R. 17,250,000. Another 427,500 shares worth S.R. 42,750,000 are to be offered for public subscription by Saudi nationals and Saudi entities and corporate bodies.

The new bank is expected to begin operations in mid-1978.

Fish farming development

The British Ministry of Overseas Development has just engaged a consultancy firm, who are experts in aquaculture, to carry out a feasibility study in the establishment of a pilot fish farm at Azraq. In association with Binnie and Partners and Andrew Downie and Kelly, a British expert working for Jordan under a technical cooperation agreement with Britain, will carry out phase one of the project.

This will entail a topographical survey to lay out a ten hectare farm. The plans will then be drawn up for the layout and construction of ponds, water supply and drainage, the building of roads, an office block, workshop, laboratory and a net mounting and materials handling shed.

The second phase of the project will be the extension of the farm to 50 hectares.

New look to old winner

The Arabic language business magazine, Alam Attijarat, has just had a dramatic face lift — its first since 1966 when it

was launched. The magazine, published by Johnston International of New York and printed in London, came out top among all business magazines in readership among "decision makers" in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the Gulf according to a recent survey conducted for the international advertising agency, McCann-Erickson.

The face lift, which takes effect with the February issue, gives the magazine a new silver logo, brightens up the graphics lay out and changes cover photo style to people instead of industrial projects.

Man behind the new look is Samir Attallah, the new editor who has just moved to London from Paris where he was senior editor with Al Mostakbal. Mr. Attallah spent most of his career with An Nahar in Beirut, rising to be foreign news editor. In between An Nahar and Al Mostakbal he was foreign editor of Al Usba al Arabi.

Potash project getting underway

The Arab Potash Co. (APC) Ltd. is inviting suppliers of a wide range of equipment and services required to construct the Dead Sea potash facility to register.

The APC has applied for financing to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Kuwait Fund for Economic Development, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Saudi Fund for Development, Arab Investment Co., Islamic Development Bank, and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development.

Amongst the equipment sought are a steam and power generating plant, a potash refinery to produce 1.2 million tons of fertilizer grade potash per year, miscellaneous machine shop, truck maintenance equipment, vehicles and materials handling equipment.

The APC has set a deadline of April 15th, to receive full details of all companies interested in tendering on the project.

AMMAN MARKETPLACE

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Soviet Union hikes consumer goods prices

MOSCOW, March 1 (R). — The Soviet Union today announced an immediate 100 per cent increase in the price of petrol for the domestic consumer and unspecified hikes in the cost of coffee, cocoa and chocolate.

The announcement came in a report from the state committee on prices issued just after midnight by the official Tass News Agency after a day of widespread rumours that sent many Muscovites scurrying to shops to stock up.

The report, which described the changes and price adjustments, said the cost of a whole range of goods -- including clothes made of unpopular synthetic mixtures -- would be reduced by from 25 to 30 per cent.

Also going down were the

prices of black-and-white television sets -- now piling up in shops as interest has switched to colour -- by 20 per cent and refrigerators were being reduced by 15 per cent. But the report added that prices of gold and platinum-based jewellery were going up by an average of 60 per cent and that petrol would now cost from 16-20 kopecks a litre (\$1.10 dollars per U.S. gallon).

It was not immediately clear if the rises would also affect petrol purchases in the state sector of the economy where they could cause serious distortion of long-term plans and budgets and lead to more generalised compensatory price increases.

As the rumours of the impending hikes circulated last night, longer lines of cars than usual formed at Moscow's very limited network of petrol stations, with many drivers filling extra cans as well as their tanks.

No immediate explanation was available for the massive increase but foreign correspondents in Moscow have been invited to a talk today with Mr. Nikolai Glushkov, Chairman of the Prices Committee.

Compensating for the future

Russian sources have said the cost of producing oil and petrol in the Soviet Union, now the world's major source of the fuels, would double by the middle of the 1980's, and some observers suggested the rise could be aimed at compensating for that now.

More bad oews for the growing army of Soviet motorists was the accompanying announcement that charges for servicing and spares for privately-owned vehicles would increase by 35 per cent.

The report said coffee, cocoa and chocolate "were increased" -- although it did not say by how much -- because of the cost of the commodities on world markets. International shortages in the past three years have sent prices soaring.

Aberration on a rococo theme



Kurt Reichmann, 37, a Frankfurt postal worker, reconstructs historic musical instruments as a hobby. His most successful revival is the eighteenth-century organ lyre. King Ferdinand IV of Naples was so fond of this particular instrument that he commissioned a concert for it from Joseph Haydn. Nowadays the lyre parts are usually played by organists, flautists or oboists. Mr. Reichmann plans to reconstruct half a dozen lyres and loan them to musicians. He has already received enquiries from as far away as Japan. (Dad photo)

U.S. stock market prices, government index take a plunge; slowdown feared

NEW YORK, March 1 (R). — A plunge in a major government economic index and a three-year low in stock market prices reinforced concern here today that the United States economy was headed for a slowdown later this year or next.

The Commerce Department reported yesterday that its index of 10 leading economic

indicators fell 1.9 per cent to January, the first decline in six months and its sharpest loss in three years.

Commerce Secretary Juanita Kreps blamed the fall on the winter blizzards and the national coal strike.

But the fall yesterday in New York Stock Market prices to their lowest levels since Feb. 28, 1975 reflected investors' fears about inflation and the country's economic future.

The fears were reinforced by the continued poor performance on the international exchange markets of the U.S. dollar which yesterday closed near its record lows against other major currencies.

Signs of a slowdown soon came as the U.S. this month

entered its fourth year of business expansion -- one of the longest periods of sustained peacetime growth since World War II.

Last year economic growth was five per cent.

The Commerce Department said eight of the 10 economic indicators in its index declined in January and the other two rose.

The bright signs were the 0.9 per cent fall in the rate of layoff in the manufacturing industries and an improvement in wholesale prices, the department said.

But total liquid assets were down, as was the volume of new orders and contracts and orders for plant and equipment. The inflation-adjusted money supply also fell.

Turkey's 1978 budget passes lower house

ANKARA, Turkey, March 1 (AP). — Turkey's lower house yesterday passed the 1978 fiscal year budget bill in what amounted to a vote of confidence in the left-leaning government of Premier Bulent Ecevit.

The voting in the 450-seat National Assembly was 229 in favour and 210 against the 265 billion Turkish lira (about \$14 billion) draft budget, a left-over from the previous rightwing rule of ex-Premier Suleyman Demirel.

Eleven deputies were not present in the balloting that climaxed weeks of debate and exchanges of insults between front-bench government and opposition parties split on how to tackle Turkey's worst financial and economic crisis.

During the course of discussions, Mr. Ecevit's Republican Peoples Party ministers, installed Jan. 1, accused Mr. Demirel's three-year rule of "tolerating extravagance that brought about the country's economic collapse."

The budget bill represents an 11.7 per cent increase in public spending compared with the previous year. State sector investments will take away 65 billion liras (\$3.37 billion) and 83 billion liras (\$4.3 billion) was set aside for transfers.

Defense appropriations for the current year was fixed at 52 billion liras (\$2.7 billion), 20 per cent of the overall budget amount and a rise of 22 per cent over 1977.

Turkey devalues lira 30%.

ANKARA, March 1 (R). — Turkey today devalued the lira against a wide range of foreign currencies, reducing its value by 30 per cent against the dollar.

Finance Ministry officials said the changes will become effective with their publication in the official Gazette later today. The new rate for the dollar has been set at 25.00 lira, compared to the previous 19.25, they added.

The central bank has ordered all banks to stop foreign currency transactions until further notice, the officials said.

1/4 million Greek workers stage 24-hour strike

ATHENS, Greece, March 1 (AP). — The Greek capital and other major towns were disrupted today as over 200,000 employees went on a one-day strike to back demands for more money and better working conditions.

The strike left banks, the public power corporation, telecommunications and public transport with only skeleton staffs. Certain domestic and external flights by Olympic Airways, the national air carrier, were cancelled. Hospitals and factories reduced operations. Most shops and offices remained open however.

Iraqi plan aims to reduce dependence on oil revenue

BAGHDAD, March 1 (R). — Iraqi Oil Minister Tarek Abdul Karim said in an interview published yesterday that his country was striving to lessen its dependence on oil revenue.

In an interview with the weekly magazine *Alif Bas*, quoted by the Iraq News Agency, Mr. Abdul Karim said the 1976-80 development plan sought to lessen the contribution of oil to the overall national income.

Oil would provide just over 50 per cent of all income in 1980, the minister said. There was no figure for oil's present contribution to the national budget. The minister said over-dependence on oil could lead to serious negative results.

Under the five-year plan, Iraq has set a revised oil production target of 200 million tons by the year 1988. In 1974, the latest year for which complete figures are available,

production was 89,427,000 tons.

While trying to expand other industrial sectors, Iraq would still put great emphasis on its oil industry, according to the minister. Exploration would be stepped up, new refineries built and the natural gas industry developed, he said.

Egypt, Greece sign trade agreement

CAIRO, March 1 (R). — Egypt and Greece yesterday signed here a \$60 million trade agreement, the Middle East News Agency announced.

It said Egypt would import \$25 million worth of tobacco, \$2.2 million worth of olives and olive oil and would export \$7 million worth of raw cotton and \$2 million worth of crude oil in addition to textiles and alcoholic drinks.

Top oil executives discuss Saudi Arabian oil production plans

BEIRUT, Lebanon, March 1 (AP). — Top executives of the Arabian-American Oil Company (Aramco) met in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, yesterday with the governor of the Saudi government-owned company.

The meeting was to discuss oil production, pricing, marketing and gas gathering projects, the official Saudi Press Agency reported.

The meeting was attended by Aramco's new Board Chairman, John Kelber and representatives of the company's four U.S. parent firms -- Exxon, Texaco, Standard Oil of California and Mobil Oil.

Petromin governor Abdul Hadi Taher told the agency that discussion dealt with the current and future production rates of the company, which manages more than 25 per cent of the world's proven reserves of crude oil.

The meeting came in the wake of a report by the Middle East Economic Survey that Saudi Arabia has placed a ceiling on its production of Arabian light crude oil for 1978.

Mr. Kelberer said recently that Aramco had submitted a detailed study to the Saudi government on different rates of crude oil production and costs of surface installation for each rate.

A Beirut newsletter also reported that Saudi Arabia was preparing a detailed technical and economic plan to increase

oil production capacity in stages, culminating in 16 million barrels a day.

The plan, prepared by Aramco, requires an estimated \$1 billion in investment by the end of 1980, the newsletter said.

Saudi Arabia's highest production rate reached 11.8 million barrels a day which dropped to about six million after the Abqaiq oilfield fire last summer.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

	Jordanian D.	Buying/Selling
U.S. dollar	309.00/311.00	
U.K. sterling	600.00/604.00	
W. German mark	153.50/154.50	
Swiss franc	169.00/170.00	
French franc	64.90/65.10	
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.20/36.40	
Japanese yen (for every 100)	129.80/130.20	
Dutch guilder	142.90/143.10	
Belgian franc (for every ten)	98.30/98.70	
Swedish crown	60.00/60.20	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATE

LONDON, (R). — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies against the dollar at the close of international bank trading on the London foreign exchange market last night. Tourist rates will differ from those quoted below.

One sterling	1.9390/9400	U.S. dollars
One dollar	2.0170/0200	West German marks
	2.1510/40	Dutch guilders
	849.50/850.00	Italian lire
	227.85/8955	Japanese yen
	4.5685/95	Swedish crowns
	5.2708/50	Norwegian crowns
	5.5435/50	Danish crowns

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Share prices closed slightly higher Wednesday after mild moderation in the absence of selling pressure, dealers said. Overall activity was subdued and at 15:00 the F.T. index was up at 443.5.

Government bonds finished 1/4 point higher after being marked down initially in reaction to Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey's comments on the international economy and gloomy review from the national institute. Leading index wiped out earlier losses to end a few pence up.

Gold shares continued to hold firm, while U.S., Canadian and Australian stocks eased.

General Accident ended unchanged despite its higher earnings figures, other insurances showed little change, and banks steady.

EMI firmed a penny ahead of its interim report tomorrow. GEC put up 2p. Thorn finished unchanged after opening 2p off. Bechman and Unilever put up 3p and 6p respectively.

In oil's Shell and Barmah closed 9p and a penny easier respectively.

Price of gold closed in London Tuesday at \$182.50/oz.

ARAB POTASH COMPANY HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR MECHANICAL WORK FOR A POTASH REFINING PLANT

The Arab Potash Company Limited (APC) of Amman Jordan plans to build a Solar Evaporation and Potash Refining Facility to produce 1.2 million tonnes per year. The facility will be located between Maqad and Salt on the southern end of the Dead Sea, about 220 km north on a new road from the Port of Aqaba. The temperature range is approximately 5° to 50°C.

APC has applied for financing to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), Agency for International Development (USAID), Kuwait Fund for Economic Development, Arab Fund for Economic & Social Development, Saudi Fund for Development, Arab Investment Co., Islamic Development Bank, and Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development. The proceeds of these credits will be applied to payments for materials, equipment and subcontract services for which this notice is issued.

Payment by the various Arab Financial Agencies, USAID and IBRD will be made only at the request of APC in accordance with the terms and conditions of the loan agreements.

Purchases will be made under the guidelines of the IBRD, USAID Handbook, Country Contracting, and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the proposed agreements between APC and the Financing Agencies.

Purchases will be made from the member countries of the IBRD, Switzerland and other nations.

The Arab Potash Company invites suppliers interested in receiving inquiries to register themselves, for which purpose they should provide the following information:

1. Items from categories listed below which suppliers are able to furnish. Include technical data and catalogues.
2. Approximate time required to:

- 2.1. Submit proposals
- 2.2. Provide Drawings and Technical Data for approval
- 2.3. Deliver equipment to Port of Aqaba.

3. List of applications where similar equipment has been in service for at least three (3) years, listing those applications by plant name and location which may be available for inspection together with reports of operation.

4. Description, capacity and range of manufacturing facilities, number of employees, engineers, etc. including current work commitments as percent of total capacity for 1978, 1979, and 1980 on a quarterly basis.

5. Union affiliation and expiration date of existing Union Agreements.

A. STEAM AND POWER GENERATING PLANT

1. Two (2) oil fired packaged unit boilers using No. 6 fuel oil with No. 2 oil start-up capabilities, rated for 127,000 kilograms per hour of steam in the range of 43 to 64 kilograms per square centimeter absolute and 420°C to 480°C complete with economizers, super heaters, fans and stacks.

2. One 12 to 15 m w. 11 kv. U.S. power loader, 50 hertz, 3000 revolutions per minute back pressure steam turbine-generator with dump condenser. The turbine will exhaust approximately 100,000 kilograms per hour for process steam at 4.5 kilograms per square centimeter absolute.

3. All other auxiliary and ancillary equipment required with the foregoing to provide a complete operating steam power station.

B. REFINERY

The Potash Refinery to produce 1.2 million tonnes per year of fertilizer grade potash will comprise equipment to decompose carnallite salts, leach syngenite, and crystallize, dry and store Potash as follows:

Slurry Pump: To pump sodium chloride and potassium chloride slurries of various flow rates to 1800 cubic meters per hour. Carbon steel, rubber lined and alloy construction.

Centrifugal Pump: For saturated brine, cooling water, condensate, demineralized water and non-process water. Capacities up to 10,000 cubic meters per hour. Single and multi-stage in carbon and stainless steel, rubber lined, fire-hard, and other alloys.

Recirculating and Rotary Pumps: For hydro carbon solvents with capacities to 25 cubic meters per hour.

Tankage: Atmospheric tanks in carbon and stainless steel and API 650 code or equal. Shop fabricated and field erected tanks of various sizes to 25 meter diameters.

Heat Exchangers: Plate and frame, shell and tube and other types in mild steel, carbon steel and alloy steel including special designs. Capacities to 25 kilowatts per second.

Crystallizers: Draft tube basket type for 1.2 million tonnes per year production of potash from saturated NaCl/KCl brine feed, complete with condensers and vacuum systems.

Centrifuges: Decanter and/or tubular types in alloy, metal and carbon steel construction. Capacities to 1800 cubic meters per hour of 25% slurry.

Agitators: Various types in alloy, stainless steel and rubber lined steel. Sizes to 4000 millimeter impellers and 275 kilowatt drives.

Ball Filters: To handle up to 1,800 cubic meters per hour of 30% solid slurry. Stainless steel and alloy construction. Complete with vacuum pumps, receivers and traps.

Thickener: Bridge type and center column type sized to 45 meter in carbon steel, monel alloy, and plastic lined materials, complete with raking and driving mechanisms.

Fans and blowers: Induced and forced draft fans for fuel oil fired dryers, boilers and potash dust collection systems. Capacities to 150,000 cubic meters per hour.

Rotary Dryer: No. 6 fuel fired to dry potash crystals. Capacity to 500 tonnes per hour complete with instruments and controls.

Cyclones: To remove ten plus micron potash dust from stack gases. Capacities to 150,000 cubic meters per hour.

Electrostatic Precipitator: To reduce potash dust loading from 1.7 grams to about 0.05 grams per cubic meter. Capacities to 150,000 cubic meters per hour.

Hydrocyclones: To concentrate 15-20% carnallite slurry to about 40% solids slurry. Capacities to 1,140 cubic meters per hour feed. Rubber lined, ceramic lined, monel, aluminum bronze alloys.

Ball Conveyors: To handle wet sodium chloride and potassium chloride and carnallite cakes. Capacities to 1,000 tonnes per hour.

Product Handling Systems: Includes elevators, conveyors, weight feeders and scales, portable conveyors and front end loaders for potash crystals, wet and dry. Capacities to 300 tonnes per hour.

Truck Scales: Capacities to 80 tonnes with remote electronic readout and printout.

Valves: Globe, gate, ball, butterfly, pinch valves for corrosive liquids and slurries. Carbon steel, and various alloy constructions.

Instruments: All electronic instrumentation required for process control plant including control valves, accessories and panels.

Laboratory Equipment: Atomic absorption, flame photometry, video meter, wet analysis, etc.

Piping Materials: Pipes, flanges, fittings, valves and accessories in carbon steel, monel, rubber lined, fire reinforced plastic, and other alloys. Expansion joints, sizes to 600 millimeters.

Equipment Linings: Special rubber lining and ceramic lining for pipes, cyclones, crystallizers, tanks, etc.

Electrical Equipment: 11 kilowatts, 6.6 kilowatts and 400 volt transformers, switch gear, starters, rectifiers, capacitors, etc. for indoor and outdoor installation. Armored and unarmored HV and LV cables and wires. Lighting fixtures, panel boards etc.

Motors: Electrical motors of 6.6 kilowatts, 3.3 kilowatts and 400 volts to a maximum of 800 kilowatts.

C. MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT

Shop Equipment: Machine shop and truck maintenance equipment.

Trailers: Automobiles, pick-up trucks, ambulance, buses and fire trucks.

Tractors: Crops, wheel, welding, flat beds, fuel, water, tube, dumpster, wrecker, low boy with tractor.

Trucks: (product and fuel oil) Tractors for 80 ton capacity bulk carriers, and hopper type trailers with 30 tonnes bulk solids capacity each. Tractors with 20 to 40 cubic meter fuel oil capacity.

Water: Sheds, work boats, barges.

Maintenance: Backhoes, bulldozers, front-end loaders, road grader, crane, cherry picker, compressor, etc.

D. CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

Construction of the project will be performed through two general contracts. One for a Power Plant, the other a Refinery. Both will include auxiliary and ancillary equipment which will include the following classes of work:

Temporary construction facilities, in-plant road construction, construction craft housing, site preparation, concrete foundations and structures, structural steel supply and erection, installation of mechanical equipment, electrical instrumentation and piping systems and installation of refractories, rubber lining and other coatings and painting. Interested contractors should apply for the prequalification booklet that will explain in detail the construction services desired.

China's constitution proposes new freedoms tighter armed forces

TOKYO, March 1 (AP). — China's parliament today received the draft of a new constitution which calls for combining field armies with regional forces and the militia and carries out "fairly big" changes in the organs of the state. A report presented by party Vice Chairman Yeh Chien-ying to the Second Plenary Session of the Fifth National People's Congress in Peking made no mention, however, of the re-establishment of the post of chief of state.

There had been speculation that Party Chairman Hua Kuo-feng would concurrently assume that job.

The draft, Mr. Yeh indicated, put heavy emphasis on the right of the masses to participate in the decisions of state, and criticise their superiors.

"All well-meant criticism from the grass roots and masses should be firmly encouraged," it said. "The people's

right to expose the evil-doers and evil deeds in state organs should be fully guaranteed."

The proposed constitution, Mr. Yeh said, also provides for the establishment of people's procurators "in view of the extreme importance of fighting against violations of the law and discipline." The procurate would serve the function now held by Western prosecutors.

The merger of the 3,500,000

army with the militia and regional forces appears aimed at preventing subversion of the more loosely organised regional and militia forces. The party radicals were accused, after their arrest in October 1976, of seeking to use them to overthrow Chairman Hua.

As reported by Mr. Yeh the constitution emphasises greater freedoms among the nation's millions and tighter control at the top, what the communists call democratic centralism.

It did not say what changes would be made in the articles concerning the state organs and state personnel but said they "set strict and necessary demands on them." The most essential, Mr. Yeh added, would be to maintain contact with the masses and have "complete faith" in them.

The draft contains references to the "Great Leap Forward" which would culminate with industrial modernisation by the year 2000.

Chairman Mao's "immortal historic contributions" are written prominently into the preamble, Mr. Yeh said.

Hsinhua said 3,444 deputies attended the plenary meeting. The congress had opened on Sunday.

Salisbury talks do "interest" Britain

LONDON, March 1 (AP). — British Foreign Secretary David Owen yesterday sent a personal message to black nationalist leader Bishop Abel Muzorewa confirming Britain's interest in the current negotiations between moderate blacks and Prime Minister Ian Smith for a Rhodesian political settlement. A Foreign Office spokesman said a senior member of the British Embassy staff in Pretoria, South Africa, flew into the Rhodesian capital of Salisbury yesterday to hand over the message to the bishop.

"This is in line with our announced policy of keeping in touch with all the parties to a possible political settlement in Rhodesia," the official said. These talks on an internal solution of the Rhodesian problem have been denounced by co-leaders of the Patriotic Front, Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe whose participation in a Rhodesia settlement had been advocated by the joint Anglo-American peace plan which Mr. Smith rejected.

No full Andreotti-Communist accord

ROME, March 1 (R). — Italy's Christian Democrats, trying to form a new minority government, pulled back last night from any kind of broad parliamentary pact with the Communists.

Speaker after speaker at a special meeting of Christian Democratic senators and deputies said that any pact with the Communists and four other parties to back a new government would have to be limited. They all rejected any general political alliance with the Communists but endorsed a limited "and not general agreement on a programme," a spokesman said.

The session, expected to enter a third day today, was seen as a mild rebuff for Premier-designate Giulio Andreotti.

Signor Andreotti told the parliamentarians on Monday night of his plans which ranged from boosting the economy and cracking on crime to reforming the courts, police and universities.

The premier-designate in his programme was responding to demands from the Communist Party to join a "clear and explicit parliamentary majority" supporting a new government and sharing its policy-making. The Communists made this

demand after dropping their previous insistence on obtaining ministerial posts in an emergency government — a demand which forced Signor Andreotti's minority Christian Democratic government to resign 43 days ago.

The demand was contained in an address made by Mr. Liao Cheng-chih, member of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee, at Peking meeting held by the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Con-

Iranian students protest in Bonn



West German policemen remove Iranian students from East Germany's Permanent Mission in Bonn on Tuesday. The students, joined by West German youths, had demonstrated in protest against the arrest in East Berlin of 12 Iranian students who occupied their country's embassy there on Monday. The arrested students, protesting against the Tehran government, had been sentenced to jail and deportation by East German authorities. (AP wirephoto)

Peking calls on Washington to break all relations with Taiwan

TOKYO, March 1 (AP). — China last night called on the United States to sever all relations with the Nationalist Chinese of Taiwan.

It repeated its contention that Taiwan is bound to be "liberated" without foreign interference.

The demand was contained in an address made by Mr. Liao Cheng-chih, member of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee, at Peking meeting held by the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Con-

ference.

Mr. Liao said the meeting was called "in commemoration of the 31st anniversary of the Feb. 28 uprising by the people of Taiwan."

The address was broadcast by the official Hsinhua news agency and monitored in Tokyo.

Mr. Liao, also an advisor to the Foreign Ministry and president of the China-Japan Friendship Association, declared that "the United States must sever its so-called diplomatic relations with the Chiang clique, wi-

thdraw all its armed forces and military installations from Taiwan and the Taiwan Straits area and abrogate its so-called Mutual Defence Treaty with the Chiang clique."

Mr. Liao was referring to followers of the late Gen. Chiang Kai-shek, who in 1949 were pushed from the mainland by the Communist government and formed the Nationalist Chinese government on Taiwan.

He said: "The liberation of Taiwan is an internal affair of our country, and when and how to liberate Taiwan is a matter which brooks no foreign interference whatsoever. Taiwan is bound to be liberated and the motherland is bound to be reunified, and no force whatsoever can prevent this," he said.

These statements by Chinese leaders on a tougher stance towards the Taiwan issue might be an oblique warning that Peking is dissatisfied with the slow pace of U.S. normalisation of relations with China, according to observers. The establishment of formal relations between Washington and Peking has been prevented by U.S. diplomatic and defence ties with Taiwan.

Anti-Mobutu group claims Zaire foiled army takeover plot

ANTWERP, March 1 (R). — A Belgian group opposed to President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire said last night it had reliable information that about 250 army officers were arrested there last week for plotting a coup.

A spokesman for the 50-member Zaire Committee, mostly of Belgian academics, said the officers planned the coup during a visit to Europe by President Mobutu early in February but were betrayed by an army colonel before they could stage it.

The Belgian Zaire Committee has also accused the Mobutu government forces of massacring about 2,000 villagers in January in the Idiofa of Bandundu Province, some 550 kms. west of the capital.

In Brussels last week, the Zairese Embassy said the committee had no proof of its massacre charge. The embassy described the committee as "a little group embracing (M. Jean) Tshombe and common law criminals who have fled to Belgium."

Committee spokesman Paul Janssens denied that the group had any contact with M. Tshombe, who now lives in Belgium and is the son of the late Katangan secessionist leader Moïse Tshombe.

M. Janssens also said the committee did not cooperate with Zairese exiles living in Belgium, although it had contacts with them.

The spokesman, who said the committee's information came from sources in Zaire which it was convinced were reliable, reported that there were fears for the lives of the estimated 250 officers arrested after the reported coup attempt.

He said it was led by a high-level army and air force officers including a high official in Zaire's Defense Ministry.

Tough time for Tongsu

WASHINGTON, March 1. — Millionaire rice dealer Tongsu Park faces more questioning today about alleged South Korean scheme to buy influence in the U.S. Congress.

During the first day of testimony before the House Representatives Ethics Committee yesterday, Mr. Park, subjected to nearly five hours of what one committee member described as intensive questioning.

Congressman Bruce Capps, a New York Republican, observed the Justice Department's interrogations of Park in Seoul, said the committee's examination was sharper and tougher than the one probe.

The committee is questioning Mr. Park about allegations he lavished gifts and substantial campaign contributions on selected members of Congress to win favourable treatment in U.S. legislation affecting South Korea.

Committee sources said Park was also asked about possible involvement of South Korean government officials in a scheme, something which Justice Department officials questioned Mr. Park in Seoul. Looking dapper and smiling, Mr. Park told reporters he was testifying "for the sake and the sake of both countries involved."

World News Briefs

Anti-Somoza strike called in Nicaragua

MANAGUA, Nicaragua March 1 (AP). — A 24-hour general strike by business and labour, starting today, was urged by opponents of the regime of President Anastasio Somoza to protest alleged brutality by the National Guard in breaking up anti-government demonstrations.

Schleyer's house of captivity located

BONN, March 1 (R). — Police have found the house in which kidnapped West German businessman Hanns-Martin Schleyer was held before his murder last year, the newspaper Bild Zeitung reported yesterday. Dr. Schleyer, 62, was kidnapped on Cologne street on Sept. 5 and his chauffeur and three bodyguards were killed. The kidnappers demanded the release of 11 members of the Baader-Meinhof urban guerrilla group in return for his life. But three Baader-Meinhof leaders included on the killed themselves in prison on Oct. 18 and Dr. Schleyer's kidnappers shot him in revenge. His body was found the next day in the boot of a car in Mulhouse, France. The newspaper said Dr. Schleyer was held in a house only 17 kms. away from where he was kidnapped. Bild said police had watched the house, weeks in case the kidnappers returned. But it said the house had since received a letter saying the house would not be used after February, 1978. The rent had been paid in full.

Israeli airforce head to pilot an F-16

TEL AVIV, March 1 (R). — The commander of Israel's Air Force, Maj.-Gen. David Ivri, left here today for the United States. Ivri told reporters at the airport he would spend most of two-week stay in the U.S. conferring with Pentagon officials but would also visit General Dynamics, manufacturers of F-16 jet fighter which he said he would be given a chance to pilot. The Carter administration has decided to sell Israel F-16 fighters in an arms deal which also includes 15 sophisticated F-15s.

Filipino kidnappers want French linguist

ZAMBOANGA CITY, Philippines March 1 (AP). — Modern kidnappers of a French government official have asked the authorities for an interpreter so they can talk with him. A Moslem official said today. The official, who was with the local government and is closely involved in the rescue of M. Pierre Huguet, 59, said the lack of an interpreter was delaying the start of negotiations. M. Huguet, a Subitor in the French Finance Ministry, was abducted on Sunday while taking photographs in the Moslem quarter of this city.

S. African case of death in detention

DURBAN, South Africa March 1 (AP). — A security policeman testified yesterday that an Indian dental surgeon was within 24 hours of being detained for questioning was seduced of association with a "subversive organisation." But Lt. Taylor denied that he or any other policeman was responsible for 40 to 50 bruises found on the body of 26-year-old Haffeejee, who was found strangled to death by his own hands in his cell last Aug. 3.

Polisario marks 2 "republic" years

ALGIERS, March 1 (R). — The Polisario Front celebrated the second anniversary of its self-styled Democratic Arab Republic somewhere in the disputed Western Sahara. Polisario delegates attended the celebration on Monday, the Algerian news agency reported.

U.S. Congress wooed for new SALT accord

WASHINGTON, March 1 (R). — The U.S. government yesterday stepped its campaign to win Congressional support for a new Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT) by trying to allay fears of Soviet "cheating."

The State Department and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee jointly released an administration report on both countries' compliance with the first agreement -- SALT 1 -- which expired in October.

A second pact -- SALT 2 -- is now being negotiated in Geneva.

American strategic weapons experts said the United States knows of no Soviet practice which had impeded ac-

city to verify the terms of the 1972 SALT pact.

Senate committee Chairman John Sparkman said in a statement: "I believe that this report should help resolve the many ill-founded charges of Soviet cheating which were undermining the search for a good SALT 2 agreement that would enhance our national security."

He later told the Senate it was clear that dealings between the two super-powers had not been easy but that matters of concern had been resolved.

The report said the U.S. has raised eight questions with the Soviet Union in the two countries' Standing Consultative Commission (SCC) over the five-year life of SALT 1.

It listed these as: launch control facilities at special-purpose intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) silos, concealment measures impeding verification by national technical means, modern large ballistic missiles, possible testing of an air defence system radar in an anti-ballistic missile (ABM) mode. Soviet reporting of dismantling of excess ABM launchers, Soviet ABM radar on the Kamchatka Peninsula, Soviet dismantling or destruction of replaced ICBM launchers, and concealment at a Soviet test range.

The Soviet Union had raised five questions in the SCC, it said.

These concerned shelters over Minuteman silos, Atlas and Titan I ICBM launchers, radar on Shemya Island, Alaska, privacy of SCC proceedings, and dismantling or destruction of a radar under construction at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana.

"This information goes a long way towards demonstrating our verification capabilities and satisfying the concerns of those who question our ability to enforce a SALT 2 agreement," one liberal senator said yesterday.

Could current anti-Palestinian feelings lead Egypt to sign separate peace with Israel?

By Nicolas B. Tatro

CAIRO, March 1 (AP). — An outburst of anti-Palestinian feeling has boiled to the surface here in the wake of the assassination of a prominent Egyptian editor and the death of 15 Egyptian commandos who tried to capture his Palestinian killers. Egyptian newspapers have played up reports of Palestinian "complicity" in the Feb. 19 Larnaca Airport shootout in Cyprus and the government took steps on Monday to reduce the special tax and travel privileges of the 150,000 Palestinians living here.

The terrorist gunmen identified themselves to hostages as Palestinians and there were reports that Palestinian commandos fired on the Egyptian troops.

If emotions continue to run high or there are new hostile acts aimed at Egypt, observers say President Anwar Sadat could divorce himself from the Palestine Liberation Organisation and might be tempted to make a separate peace with Israel. Mr. Ibrahim Sa'da, a columnist writing in Akhbar Al Youm, said if it could be proved that Palestinians shot the Egyptian commandos "we would ask our government to immediately enter serious negotiations with the Israelis for to restore Sinai alone." A prominent political professor agreed, saying "if Sa-

dat wanted to make a separate agreement, this would be his chance."

Egypt wants Arafat out?

Recent editorials have been especially critical of the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, indicating Egypt may exploit the Cyprus incident to try to replace Mr. Yasser Arafat as PLO Chairman or withdraw recognition of the PLO in favour of Palestinians in the West Bank or Gaza. In an "open letter" to Mr. Arafat, Mr. Mursi Shafat, editor of Rose Al Youssef said "Arafat resented Sadat's historic visit to Israel because he met in Jerusalem with the real Palestinians and their genuine leaders."

However, Mr. Sadat has made no overt moves thus far to disassociate himself from the PLO or change Egypt's insistence on the right of self-determination for Palestinians as part of a peace settlement.

"There is bitter feeling and the government has to do something about it," a Western diplomatic source said. "But, behind the scenes, the tie between Egypt and the PLO is closer than you might think." The depth of the anti-Palestinian feeling could be witnessed in the shouts of "No Palestine after today" and "Slaughter the Palestinians" which reverberated through the streets of Cairo after the

twin funerals last week of journalist Youssef Sibai and the commandos.

Crowds of outraged mourners roamed various neighbourhoods screaming for revenge and President Sadat warned Palestinians in a speech that he would strike "ten blow for every one."

"Most of these feelings were spontaneous and probably will die down," a senior Egyptian official said. "But it is an atmosphere which could be exploited."

Poor Egyptian raid

One qualified Western source said the Egyptian commando raid was poorly planned and executed and suggested the press campaign against the Palestinians was in part to divert attention from this fact.

PLO Spokesman in Egypt, Abu Nidal, accused the mass-circulation Al Akhbar newspaper and certain pro-Western elements in Egypt of "trying to isolate Egypt from the rest of the Arab World... These slogans in the street stem from the newspapers focusing on the Palestinians as the cause," Abu Nidal said. "But it was the agents of Iraqi intelligence who were behind the slaying of Youssef Sibai."

An undercurrent of anti-Palestinian sentiment has long existed in Egypt and is based on the feeling that the PLO

is ungrateful for the sacrifices Egypt has made for their cause.

Since November

An upsurge of anti-Palestinian feeling followed President Sadat's trip to Israel last November and some Arabs condemned him as a traitor to the Arab cause. Egypt responded by closing down the Voice of Palestine radio station and deporting a number of Palestinian activists.

Prime Minister Mamdouh Salem told parliament on Monday that legislation would be submitted to revise the special status Palestinians have in Egypt. Palestinian sources said they expected this would mean Palestinians would be banned from owning land, face higher taxes and tighter controls on travel.

"I don't think the government wants it to go further," an Egyptian source said. "They haven't let the emotions get out of hand and I don't think it will be serious unless the government decides to turn it on."

But he added that if there were more hostile attacks aimed at Egypt it could disrupt peace negotiations. "It would bring everything to a halt while Egypt dealt with the crises and (U.S. peace envoy Alfred) Atherton might as well go home and play chess."